MARYLAND

# COLONIZATION JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY JAMES HALL, GENERAL AGENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

New Series. BALTIMORE, NOVEMBER, 1843. Vol. 2.—No. 5.

"Nothing is more clearly written in the Book of Destiny, than the Emancipation of the Blacks; and it is equally certain that the two races will never live in a state of equal freedom under the same government, so insurmountable are the barriers which nature, habit and opinion have established between them." JEFFERSON.

## TARIFF, REVENUE LAW, TRADING LICENCES, &c.

These important subjects have at last come up in due form before the Board of Managers, and the result has been the following able report of a committee, with the ordinance annexed thereto, all of which have been adopted and sanctioned by the Board. Doubtless, many amendments and alterations of the ordinance suggested by circumstances attending its operation, will from time to time be required and made, but it is believed that as it now stands, it will form the basis and ground-work of a permanent system of policy.

### REPORT.

The committee to whom was referred the despatches from the colony by the "Atalanta," with instructions to consider and report upon the subjects which they treated of or suggested, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to make the following report: of these subjects, the one which first engaged their attention, is that of a tariff of duties upon importations into the colony. The committee are deeply impressed with the importance of this measure, as well as of the propriety of originating it at this time, with reference to the great objects of African colonization. It will be remembered that in all efforts heretofore made by civilized nations to transplant portions of their people, and the arts and luxuries of civilized life, to remote portions of the globe, the primary object in view was the aggrandizement of the nation at home, by creating tributaries to its greatness in these effects of the parent stock. Their legislation has always tended to the production of this end, and colonial prosperity was a growth in despite of exacting policy, and not the result of parental fostering care. Such was not the motive which led to the colonization of Africa, nor is such the policy under which it can be expected that the hopes of the enterprise will be gratified. These hopes can be realized by nothing short of the founding and building up of a nation in Africa, free and independent, owing no political allegiance to any other, possessing the arts and the literature of civilized life, living under the doctrines of the christian faith, and entirely self-dependent for the production of the means of living, and of self defence against all foreign aggression. The society has witnessed with gratified pride the gradual onward march of their colony towards this consummation. A few years ago it was a handful of men, with but a precarious foothold

upon a savage coast, now, through the munificence of the state, and the benevolence of the friends of colonization, a nation is planted which gives promise at no distant day to achieve all that our most sanguine wishes could desire. In its commencement, in its continuance to the present, and for some time to come, it has needed, and will still require, the most zealous co-operation of its friends at home. Its onward march may be likened indeed, to our own progress in life. It has been nursed for a time in helpless and dependent infancy, but meanwhile strength has been accumulating in its growth, and it needs but the first simple lesson of childhood to be taught that it may walk by itself, until in time it shall move in the assured stride of rigorous maturity. In this view the committee think that the time has arrived when the colonists may learn to be their own helpers, and the imposition of light duties upon imports, the revenues from which will go into the colonial treasury, will afford the easiest and least burthensome mode of teaching them to help themselves. Much difficulty has been experienced by the committee in determining upon the character of the duties to be imposed. Had they the knowledge which the experience of the colony will hereafter afford, they would undoubtedly have recommended a tariff of specific duties; but for the commencement of a policy, hereafter to be elaborated and improved by the enlightened experience of the colonists themselves, they recommend a uniform rate of 10 *per centum, ad valorem*, to be collected upon the ware-housing system, and payable in cash upon the withdrawal of the goods for consumption. In accordance with these views the committee have availed themselves of the services of Mr. Evans, to whom the society is indebted upon many former occasions for like kindnesses, in drafting an Ordinance, entitled, "an Ordinance to raise a revenue for the support of government in the colony of Maryland in Liberia, and for other purposes," which is herewith submitted. The board will perceive, that besides the imposing and collecting of duties, the ordinance provides for two other subjects, to wit: the subject of licenses to trade, and that of a light-house duty. In reference to the first of these, the committee think the policy of the society, adopted only to promote the ultimate good of the colonists themselves, requires that such restraints upon trade should be imposed as to keep it within that limit, in which alone it can benefit the colony. The limit alluded to, consists in a trade just sufficient to supply the colony as an agricultural people, and not in the extension of traffic to the point of taking from the colony its agricultural character, and giving it a commercial one. To this last result many circumstances would seem naturally to tend. Not a few of our emigrants have had such a connection with trade in this country, as would perhaps lead them to its pursuit in Africa, and this, added to the natural seductions of a trade carried on between the civilized and the savage, in which a large amount of native produce might be brought into market, to be exchanged for imported goods at a handsome profit, would tempt many into commerce, whose labour, for the benefit of the colony, would be better bestowed elsewhere. If colonization had for its object the enriching of emigrants that they might return and expend their wealth, or the creation of a trade, the results of which were intended to benefit this country, then it would become us to stimulate to activity in commerce; but seeing that its great purpose is to build up an independent and self-dependent nation, a nation whose interest is in the soil, and whose bread is wrought out of the soil, it rather behooves us to discourage trade, that the industrial force of the people may be directed to pursuits which will bind them and their descendants by the strongest ties to their new home. The tax now proposed, will, it is believed, be sufficient for the present, to effect this object, whilst at the same time it will collect from the

trade some portion of the gains of his pursuit, to be applied by the government to the promotion of the general welfare of the colony.

With reference to the light-house duty, the committee report that it is rather a change of the name of an old, than the imposition of a new burthen. A duty has been heretofore collected from vessels visiting the colony, under the name of "anchorage duty," which it is now proposed to apply to the support of the new light-house recently constructed. The new and appropriate application of this revenue to a permanent object, suggested the idea of providing for it in the ordinance, and of giving it a name indicative of its application. The committee suggests as the rate of duty, 8 cents per ton.

Upon the occupation of Fishtown, by the location thereat of a few families, recommended by governor Russwurm in his despatch, the committee report favourably. The purchase of that territory, in itself desirable, with a view to preserve us from too near a contact with neighbouring colonies, appears to have been judicious, and no measure should be neglected which would render the acquisition of it effectual. The plan of Gov. Russwurm, taken in connection with the proposed survey of the harbour by our government vessels, which is understood to have been promised by the Navy Department to the president of the board, seems to the committee to be all that is now desirable.

The extension of the avenue to Denah, is a matter which has more anxiously troubled the deliberations of the committee than any of which they have spoken. On the one hand the opening of the road brings within our reach the extensive and fertile country watered by the Cavally, and gives us the Cavally itself as a great highway of cheap transportation, and a water power of incalculable value. With reference to the future wants of the colony, and though *future*, we hope not very distant, these are considerations not lightly to be estimated, nor to be abandoned for the want of such present exertion as would be dictated by a little foresighted enterprise. On the other hand, we are admonished by wisdom carefully to guard against such a diffuse extension of the colony as will impair its defensive strength in the hour of peril, and leave it the easy victim of a native invasion. In these conflicting views, both well entitled to serious consideration, the committee think that the subject had better be left to the discretion of Gov. Russwurm and his council, with an emphatic declaration on the part of the board of the policy of the society in establishing the colony, and the strongest injunctions to carry out that policy as far as it may comport with the safety of the people. That this declaration should enforce strongly upon the attention of the government, that the present settlement is only the germ of a nation which is to take root and to flourish in Africa as part and parcel of the soil; that the primary and distinguishing character of the people is to be agricultural, to encourage which, such direction should be given to labour as will tend to enkindle the affection which binds a man to the acre he tills, and throws around his hearth the attachments of a homestead,—that the extension of the settlement is to be made not only with the object of promoting the present comfort and convenience of those already there, but of enlarging its capacity to receive and provide for others in still greater numbers, and especially with reference to a period of time when that which is now a dependent colony shall be an independent nation, with power to increase in extent and strength, untrammeled by any restriction, which a narrower policy, dictated by our present feebleness, might impose;—that these elemental principles of the society are to be kept constantly in view in all that the government does, and to be carried out to the utmost point consistent with the preservation of the defensive force of the

colony;—and that no considerations of personal convenience on the part of those charged with the government, and no balancing of a supposed present benefit, against a more remote, but greater advantage, shall be permitted to control what is now declared to be fundamental in the policy of the society.

With this understanding the committee do not recommend the issuing of any peremptory instructions in relation to the avenue to Denah.

All which is respectfully submitted,

GEORGE W. DOBBIN,
THOS. WILSON,
J. H. MCCULLOH,
JNO. L. CAREY.

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## AN ORDINANCE

### TO RAISE A REVENUE FOR THE SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT IN THE COLONY OF MARYLAND IN LIBERIA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

*Be it enacted and ordained by the Maryland State Colonization Society*, That there shall be appointed by the Governor of Maryland in Liberia, from time to time, a public officer who shall be called Collector of the Revenue in Maryland in Liberia, and who shall hold his office during the pleasure of the Governor.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That the said Collector shall have power to employ and appoint to assist him in the execution of his office, such assistants and clerks as the Governor, for the time being, may deem necessary, every such appointment to be approved by the Governor, and all such assistants and clerks to hold their appointments during the joint pleasure of the Governor and Collector, and to be removable by either of them; but such assistants and clerks may be appointed for the purpose of discharging a specific duty.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That all assistants and clerks appointed under the last section shall receive such daily compensation as the Governor and Council may from time to time direct, and shall be paid only for the days in which they actually be employed in the public service, when employed in superintending the removal of goods to the public warehouse, or from the same, unless such goods shall have paid duty, such compensation shall be paid by the owner of the goods, and in like manner when employed in any other service for the benefit of individuals, but when employed in superintending the removal of goods which have paid duty, or in any other service not specially beneficial to or required by some individual, it shall be paid out of the public revenue.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall be the duty of the Collector to keep an office in some place to be appointed by the Governor, and provided and furnished at the public expense, to be called the custom house, and to attend there on such days and at such hours as the Governor by fixed rules may appoint, but the said office shall never be opened or the said Collector obliged to attend there upon Sundays.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That the said Collector shall have as his compensation a commission upon all moneys which he shall collect in the execution of his duty, which shall be fixed from time to time by the Governor and Council, and shall not be less than two nor more

than five per cent. and shall also be entitled to twenty-five per cent. of all fines or forfeitures imposed for violations of the revenue laws, and notwithstanding such interest may be a witness in any proceeding for the enforcement of such fines and forfeitures.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall be the duty of every master or commanding officer of any ship or vessel, not a man-of-war, which shall come to an anchor within the waters of Maryland in Liberia, within twenty-four hours after anchoring, either to depart from the said waters or to report himself at the custom-house, and there to make an entry upon his solemn affirmation, of the name, class, nation and tonnage of such ship or vessel, her last port of departure, and the name of such master or commanding officer, and whether it is the intention of such master or commanding officer to trade or land any part of his cargo within the limits of Maryland in Liberia.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That if any master or commanding officer shall not make such report and entry, as is directed by the last section, or shall not make it in due time, or shall make any false entry, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred dollars, to be recovered in an action of debt in the name of Maryland in Liberia, and if he shall make any false entry, as to the tonnage of his ship or vessel, he shall forfeit and pay in addition to the said sum of one hundred dollars, and in addition to the tonnage light house duty hereinafter imposed, double the amount of the light house duty, which such ship or vessel ought to pay, to be recovered in like manner, and in the same or a separate action of debt, as the Collector may direct, and it shall be the duty of the Collector to cause all actions for offences against this or any other section of this law to be forthwith brought and promptly proceeded in, they being hereby placed under his charge and control, but he may nevertheless, with the consent of the Governor, commit the conduct of them to any other proper person, who shall receive such compensation out of the proceeds of the case as the Governor and Collector shall think proper to allow.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall be the duty of the master or commanding officer of every ship or vessel at the time of making his entry as aforesaid, to pay to the Collector a light house duty of eight cents for each ton, and if he shall neglect or refuse to do so, he shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars, and double the amount of said light house duty, to be recovered as aforesaid, and treble the amount of the proper light house duty may be recovered of every master or commanding officer of every ship or vessel not entered according to law.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That a duty of ten per centum on the invoice price shall be and is hereby imposed upon all goods, wares and merchandise, imported or landed in Maryland in Liberia, except such as are the property of emigrants from the United States of America arriving in vessels owned, chartered or freighted by the said Society, and under its charge, and except such as are stored in the public stores of the custom house in the manner hereinafter provided for.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That no goods, wares or merchandise shall be landed within the territory of Maryland in Liberia without a permit from the Collector, to obtain which it shall be necessary to

exhibit to the Collector an import entry in the form hereto annexed as schedule A, in which shall be specified the marks and numbers of each package, the weight or measure of all goods in bulk, the value as per invoice of all goods upon which duty is to be paid, or which are to be stored in the custom house stores, and the quantity of all goods free of duty, upon receipt of which import entry, and the making affirmation thereto before the Collector, and the payment of the prescribed duties, it shall be the duty of the Collector to issue permits for landing such goods, wares or merchandise in the proper form, according to those set out in schedules B, C and D.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That every person making any false entry in such import entry, shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars, and quadruple the amount of the duty of which it was attempted to defraud the government, to be recovered by action of debt as aforesaid.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That all goods, wares and merchandise which shall be landed by virtue of any such permit, shall be landed under the personal inspection of an Assistant Collector, whose duty it shall be to see that they conform to the description and amount in the permit; and if the permit be to land them and deposit them in the custom house stores, to see that they are so deposited, and that they do not enter into the consumption of the country.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That the Collector shall have authority, whenever he shall think it necessary, to station an Assistant Collector on board of every ship or vessel within the waters of Maryland in Liberia, whose duty it shall be to see that the said ship or vessel, and all on board of her, conform in all respects to the revenue laws, and especially that no goods are landed without proper permits.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That all goods, wares and merchandise, landed without a permit, shall be forfeited and may be seized by the Collector, condemned and sold; and that the Collector shall be entitled to twenty-five per cent. of the nett proceeds, the informer to twenty-five per cent., and the remainder shall be applied to the support of government.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That every person concerned in the landing of any goods, wares and merchandise without a permit, shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars, and double the value of the goods, wares and merchandise so landed, to be recovered by action of debt as aforesaid.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall be lawful for the Collector to grant permits for the landing of any goods, wares or merchandise whatever, to be stored in the public warehouse under the charge of the Collector; and such goods, wares or merchandise shall be subject to no charges except the actual expense of removing them from the ship or vessel to the warehouse, including the usual compensation to the Assistant Collector superintending such operation, and storage while such goods remain in the warehouse, at such reasonable rates as shall be fixed by the Governor and Council, not exceeding a fair compensation for the service actually rendered.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That any person who may be the owner of any goods, wares or merchandise stored in the public warehouse under the authority of this act, shall be at liberty to remove the

same, or any part thereof, upon paying the expenses due upon the goods so removed, and place the same on board any ship or vessel whatever, paying the expense of such removal, including the usual compensation to the Assistant Collector superintending such removal.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall be lawful for any person who may be the owner of any goods, wares or merchandise stored in the public warehouse as aforesaid, to remove the same at his pleasure, by paying the expenses due upon the said goods so removed, and ten per centum duty upon the same.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That if the Collector shall not receive punctual payment of the storage of any goods, wares or merchandise, or if any goods, wares or merchandise shall be in danger of perishing, it shall be lawful for the Governor to order the Collector by writing, under his hand, setting forth the reasons for the proceeding, to sell the same at public auction, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay all charges on the whole parcel of goods, and the duty on the portion so sold.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That if the Collector shall suspect any fraud in any invoice, it shall be lawful for him to apply to the Governor, who shall appoint three suitable persons to appraise all the goods, wares, and merchandise, in such invoice, agreeably to the rates of selling the same in Maryland in Liberia, and if such appraisement shall exceed the invoice price, taking the whole invoice together, more than one hundred per centum, duties shall be calculated upon such appraisement, otherwise upon the invoice, and such appraisers shall be entitled to such reasonable compensation as the Governor and council shall from time to time direct, to be paid out of the duties collected on such goods, but the Governor may in any case in which he may be satisfied that no fraud was intended, direct the duties to be calculated upon the invoice price.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall not be lawful to introduce into Maryland in Liberia by land, any goods, wares, or merchandise, not the produce or manufacture of the continent of Africa, without making entry and obtaining permit, and paying duties in the same manner as if the same had been imported in a ship or vessel, and all such goods, wares, and merchandise, except as aforesaid, so introduced, shall be forfeited, and every person concerned in introducing such goods, shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars, and double the value of the goods so introduced, to be recovered as aforesaid, and all the provisions and regulations of this ordinance shall apply to goods, wares, and merchandise introduced by land in the same manner as if imported by sea.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall be the duty of the Collector, to seize all goods forfeited under any of the provisions of this ordinance, and for the purpose of enabling him to do so, he is hereby authorized and required, by writing, under his hand, to direct the sheriff to assist him therein, and summon to his aid all good citizens, and it shall be lawful in case of any goods, wares, or merchandise being wrongfully seized by the Collector, for the owner or owners thereof to institute an action of replevin against the Collector, in which it shall be lawful for the Collector to shew title to the goods in the government, by proving the violation of law and consequent seizure.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That whenever the Collector shall seize any goods, wares, or merchandise, under the provisions of this ordinance, he shall cause a list of the same to be set up in the custom house, and at the door of the court house, and if within ten days no writ of replevin shall be served upon him, the said goods shall be sold, and the purchasers shall have good title thereto, but the original owners may, if they think proper, try the same question in an action of debt, for money had and received, against the Collector, commenced within three months after the sale, during which time and during the pendency of such action, the Collector shall not be bound to pay over the proceeds of sale, and in case of a verdict and judgment against the Collector in any such action of replevin or debt, the costs shall be paid either by the Collector or by the public, as the court before whom the case is tried shall direct.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That no person shall open a store or transact business as an importer, commission merchant, or wholesale merchant, without obtaining from the Collector a license so to do, the price of which shall be one hundred dollars per annum for an importer, commission merchant and wholesale merchant, one license sufficing for the three occupations, and twenty-five dollars per annum for a retail store, and every person doing business without such license shall forfeit and pay ten dollars for each and every day, and it shall be the duty of the Collector to enforce payment of the said forfeiture by daily action of debt before a justice of the peace, who shall have jurisdiction thereof, but the provisions of this section shall not extend to persons dealing exclusively in African produce, or to females whose whole stock in trade shall not exceed one hundred dollars.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That all actions of debt against the master or other officer of any ship or vesssel, for any violation of this ordinance, may be enforced by attachment against such ship or vessel, whether she belong in whole or in part to the defendant or not, or by any other lawful means whatever.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That it shall be the duty of the Governor and council to make all such provisions, rules and regulations as may be necessary or expedient for effectually enforcing all the provisions of this ordinance, and shall have the power to require or dispense with a bond from the Collector, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duty as such officer, and shall also have power to fix the amount of the penalty of such bond.

*And be it enacted and ordained*, That the court of monthly sessions shall have jurisdiction in all matters growing out of the foregoing ordinance, except where it has been otherwise specially provided for.

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WHERE THE MONEY GOES.—The salary paid by the Anti-Slavery Society to James G. Birney, the "Friend of Man," and the Anti-Slavery candidate for President of the United States, is $2,280 per annum, besides travelling expenses. That paid to the intensely benevolent Joshua Leavitt, editor of the Emancipator, is $1,800 per annum, and to Henry B. Stanton, $1,000 and his travelling expenses. Who would'nt sympathise with the poor slave for $2,000 per annum? Benevolence is a good trade—a great many ingenious persons have found it out.—*N. Y. Herald.*

At the suggestion of a friend we re-publish the following graphic detail of the horrors of the trial by saucy wood.

LETTER FROM DR. SAMUEL F. McGILL TO MOSES SHEPPARD, ESQ.

HARPER, *Cape Palmas, Oct. 6, 1839.*

TO MOSES SHEPPARD, ESQ., *Baltimore.*

There exists on the western coast of Africa a species of trial for imputed crimes, approaching very near to that of the ancients; indeed the forms are the same. The accused is required to pass his hand over an iron bar, heated to redness, to insert it in boiling oil, or to partake of a decoction of the poisonous bark of the saucy wood. The two latter modes of trial prevail on this part of the coast, the former I have only heard of as being practised in the neighbourhood of Cape Mount.

Here it is quite traditional, that if an innocent man partakes of the bark, it proves innocent—but its effects on the guilty are invariably destructive to life. So confident are the majority of the natives in our vicinity, of the infallibility of this test, that when accused innocently, they scruple not to swill three or four gallons of the decoction. Having once escaped its poisonous effects, they become intrepid, and are repeatedly willing, on the most trifling occasions, to submit themselves for trial in order to gratify the continual and persevering enmity of an accuser.

A celebrated individual was not long since seized with an acute disease, which speedily terminated his existence. After his interment, the relatives of deceased consulted the doctors in some of the neighbouring towns, as to the cause of his death. (These miserable imposters profess to have the power of demanding an audience of his satanic majesty, from whom they receive such information as is necessary to give satisfaction.) In two days the answer was given, accusing an individual who had rendered himself obnoxious to the family, as being the cause of his death by witchcraft. This was sufficient, and one of three alternatives was left him. Either to confess his guilt and be mulcted in a heavy fine; to flee his country, (which they generally can effect if anxious,) or to swallow the decoction. He, however, preferred the latter, trusting in his innocency for his escape from danger.

On the day appointed the culprit was led to a remote spot from the colony, and witnessed the preparation of the bark. This merely consisted in separating it from the tree, cutting it into small pieces and pounding it in a mortar, with the addition of two gallons of water. The quantity of the bark used in this case did not exceed one pound. After the water was suitably tinged, it was poured off and the individual required to drink, which he did without any reluctance. Having drank nearly the whole, he started on his return to town, and accomplished the walk of more than a mile with ease. After his arrival in town, he was kept constantly walking, in order to allow the poison its full operation. Short periods were occasionally allowed him to expel the contents of his stomach.

During this promenade, he was constantly muttering—"If I am guilty of the crime alleged against me, may I be seized with cramps! may my breath be cut short, and may my body be transferred to hell."

This was continued quite five hours, by which time the whole was expelled by vomiting. He vomited with ease, laboured under no extraordinary degree of excitement, and frequently conversed and laughed with those around him.

I have since seen this man, and find that he enjoys good health, and felt himself relieved entirely of its effects after a half days rest. This case, however, is not a fair example, his accusers did not seem anxious to push the affair to extremes, or they would have doubled the quantity used.

*January* 3. Since penning the above communication, an effort has been made by Messrs. Wilson and Payne, for the abolition of this diabolical custom. The king and head men very readily assembled, and after a discussion of the question at two or three successive meetings, it was finally resolved that saucy wood or the trial by saucy wood, should forever be abolished.

In ratification of the agreement, the Rev. Mr. Wilson prepared a sumptuous feast, to which all the nobility were invited. This seemed to finish the affair, to the general satisfaction of all parties. This agreement was entered into by the patriarchs of the community, the persons who are the most likely to be exposed to the dangers of the ordeal, but it has subsequently appeared that the coincidence of the inferior individuals of the community was also necessary to the faithful observance of any law or agreement infringing on customary and habitual usuages.

On the 4th January, 1840, about one month from the ratification of the agreement, a woman was accused of witchcraft, or of having by some underhand means caused the illness of her step-son. She denied the charge, and consented to undergo the trial. It was the intention of her accusers to have administered the drug secretly, hoping to elude the vigilance of the missionaries. This, however, they were unable to accomplish, as one of the natives conveyed the intelligence to Mr. W. He being informed, had the king and head men assembled at an early hour, to expostulate with them against its administration; and urged the right he had from their agreement to require their liberating the woman immediately.

After evasions and objections on their part of every kind, they finally announced it as their intention to continue the custom in spite of remonstrances, and every other means that might be instituted for its suppression. They farther said that the woman had already taken the saucy wood, for which purpose they had carried her in the woods before the sun rose,—and wound up the affair by requesting Mr. W. to go home and not to interfere in future with their saucy wood palavers.

The woman before mentioned, commenced taking the decoction at 5 o'clock, A. M. She was of a stout make, rather corpulent, and thirty-five or forty years of age. From all accounts, she was of a strong constitution, indeed her extreme endurance of suffering, eminently proves that disease had never made any serious impression on her.

When I first saw her she had taken the drug, and was walking in King Freeman's town, surrounded by several hundred of the natives. The opposition offered to its exhibition seemed to have infuriated them, and it was their determination that she should die. I immediately joined the crowd in order to note its effects.

This was at noon, and it had been perfectly clear all the morning, the thermometer at 87 degrees. The woman seemed much overcome by fatigue—and exhausted from having been continually driven about all day. She could scarcely support herself on her legs, but tottered after the manner of a drunkard—occasionally she sank to the earth. Availing myself of one of these favourable periods, I examined her pulse, and it beat one hundred and two in a minute—the pulse was soft, easily compressible, and seemed to undulate beneath the finger, but was regular in its beats; in this state it continued for nearly two hours.

Her eyes were red, arising from the turgescence of the conjunctival vessels, and was glazed, she could look steadily on nothing.

The posterior muscles of the neck seemed to have lost their power of contraction, in consequenae of which her head was allowed to roll heavily on her shoulders and breast, while supported in a sitting position. Although the day was exceedingly warm, yet the surface of her body was perfectly dry.

Her lips were parched, and she made several ineffectual attempts to expel a quantity of frothy spitu, deeply tinged with the bark, that had accumulated in the mouth.

She remained sitting five minutes, when she was again aroused by her inhuman tormentors, supported on either side by two of them, she tottered forward, in fifteen minutes more she again fell, apparantly incapable of farther muscular exertion.

She yet retained the power of speech, and denied the charge brought against her, 'but,' says she, 'if I die, the sick man will never recover, his fate is interwoven with mine, kill me as soon as you please,' this increased the barbarity of her attendants, whereupon they lifted her again on her feet and urged her onward, in her attempts to walk she fell prostrate on her face. She was now seized by two men, one at each hand, and dragged over the gravel and stones until her thighs, knees and shoulders were cruelly torn, and bleeding,—the poignancy of her suffering revived her; she was again uplifted, and staggered nearly an hundred yards, and fell with her head against a stone that made a fearful gash over the right eye.

This afforded these fiends infinite amusement, they evinced their joy by repeated yells. Unable to control my feelings any longer, I approached her, and by voice and gesture, succeeded in dispersing the crowd for a moment.

I was at first respectfully, and afterwards harshly commanded to leave her. After a confusion of a few minutes, they were prevailed on to listen to my remarks. I told them that they had given her the pioson, and that it was likely to do its work, and requested them to place her in my charge, or suffer her to die in peace. They began to betray marks of impatience, on which I farther promised them that providing she was placed in my hands, I would obligate myself to cure the man she was accused of having poisoned. Their steady answer was No! She was snatched away from me, and they continued their horrid work of death.

Finding that she was so far gone as to render hopes of recovery entirely out of the question, they dragged her to the sand beach, and laid her in the dry and hot sand, which was indeed intensely so that I could not bear my hand in it a few seconds without pain. Her breathing had now become hurried, the whole body moved at every inspiration, the abdominal walls had fallen in, and seemed to touch the spine.

*Two o'clock.* Sand was now thrown into her mouth and eyes, and attempts were made to strangle her. This cruelty caused an effort that I did not think her capable of; for she again arose in the sitting posture, and spit out the sand.

The anxiety for her destruction seemed to increase, with this unlooked for evidence of strength. A half gallon more of the decoction was brought and presented to her, she refused it and clenched her teeth. She was now thrown on her back and forcibly held so by persons standing on her legs and arms, another placed his foot on her face, so as to keep the head steady, while attempts were made to pour the liquor down her throat with a funnel; failing of success in this they poured it in her nostrils, and had the quantity been sufficient, would have drowned her with it. Her struggles during this performance, overthrew all those who held her, and she started on her feet, but fell immediately.

Attempts were made to cover her entirely with sand, in order to suffocate her, but she easily threw off the load. All their attempts to murder her proving abortive, they now determined on drowning her in Sheppard's lake. To accomplish this, she was dragged a half mile farther on the beach, but before reaching the lake, they were checked by the presence of too large a

number of the colonists, and they retraced their steps; only in returning, they dragged her through a species of dwarf palm, the leaves of which are as piercing as needles—they were thus occupied a minute or two when she broke from them, and walked five hundred yards, with this exertion her powers entirely failed, and afterwards she was nearly passive under all they chose to inflict.

*Three o'clock.* She has again had a half gallon more of the potion poured into her nostrils—her tormentors are fatigued, and allow her a few moments respite. Her pulse scarcely perceptible, 90 in a minute, breathing laborious and hurried—eyes half closed, and appears unconscious of every thing around her.

*Half past three.* They have dragged her to the margin of a stagnant pool of water. Poured water into her nostrils, and placed their hands on her mouth to prevent the passage of air into the lungs, and finally they clasp her about the throat, and cover the superior half of her body entirely with sand, she struggling, and endeavouring to throw it off; finally in this way they succeed in murdering a human being, whose only crime was that she was forced to believe that she was a witch.

I here give you a faithful but appalling history of the transactions in our vicinity. The whole scene was enacted in Cape Palmas—the colonists, and even the children were eye-witnesses—even in sight of two missionary establishments, and yet we must calmly look on and say nothing.

Humanity shrinks on the representation of such barbarities. I ardently look forward to the period when we shall be allowed by force of arms, (since persuasions effect nothing,) to abolish this system of murder, in our immediate neighbourhood.

The greatest obstacle to the abolishing of the custom arises from the natives being divided into families. They always accuse individuals belonging to a family, with whom they have a feud—of course this creates a desire to retaliate—hence the great obstacle that has prevented the success of the missionaries.

Not less than ten individuals have taken it within three weeks, only three have died. The escape of so large a number may be attributed to the strength of the preparation, or to the lenity of those who are appointed to prepare it.

Young and vigorous men are those who most strenuously oppose any measures for its suppression. They are the least liable to be accused of witchcraft. The old and ugly are those who dread it most—I may include the deformed. The young men retain the usage, as it is the only means of keeping the older in check, otherwise they would prove the greatest tyrants that ever lived.

As strange as it may appear, and as dangerous as it is in reality, there are those among the natives who will avow themselves wizards or witches in order to revenge themselves on a person against whom they have a private pique.

Cases have occurred here, men have gone to the houses of sick persons, knocked at the doors, and inform them in a feigned voice, that they were the originators of the disease. This fills the inmates with dread, and none are so bold as to come forth and detect the prowler, lest they themselves may be exposed to their necromancy. Not long since, an instance of the kind occurred, but the wizard "caught a tartar," a friend to the sick man was in the house at the time, and instead of coming out, poked his gun through a crevice, and lodged its contents in the fellow's back; he got off, but on enquiry the next day, the wounded man was found, and of course was disposed of in a very summary manner.

The doctors are frequently applied to for some article to ensure the death of an enemy. These fellows invariably furnish something—whether to effect the object or not I am unable to say. Should the individual happen to be taken ill, however, the doctor immediately comes and lodges secret information. In such cases, the culprit is so overcome with surprise, that he pays a fine and promises to remove the cause of sickness, and should the powers of nature happen to aid him, he gets clear, but should the sick man die, he is compelled to drink the saucy wood.

Very respectfully yours, SAMUEL F. MCGILL.

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(From the Liberia Herald.)

## LETTER FROM MOSES SHEPPARD, ESQ. OF BALTIMORE, TO WM. POLK, OF LIBERIA.

"In a former letter I adverted to some of the inducements to acquire those comforts in youth which are always desirable in age; taking your climate as an analogy, what I said was simply advising you to exert yourself in the 'drys to prepare for the rains,' that you might not be unsheltered and destitute in that season in which it is difficult, if not impracticable to labour. Youth is the dry season, or season of labour, and old age the rainy season, or season of rest in human life; to me, it appears that a feeble old man toiling or attempting to toil for a subsistence, that should have been procured in his earlier years, is a spectacle at which the very angels must weep. I am solicitous that you may not be the subject of so painful a spectacle. Your situation is peculiar, the first emigrants to a colony are placed in an important and responsible trust. You should view yourselves not as individuals, but as representatives of that host, perhaps, of almost countless thousands who may hereafter form the crowded population of Liberia; to them the names, the character, and history of the founders of the colony, will descend with honour or execration according to their acts; you may therefore consider yourselves as acting in the presence of that multitude, who in future time, will swarm on the shore and penetrate the forests of Liberia. By them the spot that was cultivated by an early and honoured emigrant will be held in high estimation; the palm tree that was planted by a venerated ancestor, will be too sacred to be touched by ruthless hands. As his name descends from age to age, the lofty palm will serve as an emblem of his free and elevated mind, and a towering monument of his works.

"The colonies in Liberia are objects of solicitude and interest, or curiosity to the coloured race both in Africa and America; placed on a theatre to which their attention is directed, if you are stimulated by pride or ambition, self-love or avarice, you will not want motives to exertion; if you are guided by the benign influences of christian duty, or the high and honourable feelings of philanthropy, you will not only have a motive, but a sanction for untiring industry,—in a word you are urged by all those motives, which too often obtain a predominant influence over the actions of men, and you are bound by every consideration that ought to bind a man, to apply all your energies with unceasing vigilance to a cause designed to meliorate the condition of a large and benighted portion of the human family, and to set the captive free. On you, the colonists, depends the success of a great and humane enterprise. The importance you have thus already attained is an earnest of the high destiny that awaits your perseverance. On you depends the resurrection of a nation's right;—to achieve this high behest, will require all the elements of a nation, not only men, but a certain amount of wealth; the arts and sciences must also be located there, before Liberia can be admitted into the family of nations."

(From the Baltimore American.)

## AFRICAN COLONIZATION—MR. KENNEDY'S REPORT.

We acknowledged some days since the reception of a copy of Mr. Kennedy's Report from the committee on commerce of the House of Representatives of the last congress, on the *memorial of the friends of African colonization*, assembled in convention in the city of Washington in May, 1842. Appended to the report is a collection of the most interesting papers on the subject of African colonization and the commerce and products of Western Africa, together with all the diplomatic correspondence between the United States and Great Britain on the subject of the African slave trade. The whole publication, including the report and the appendix, makes a voluminous document of more than one thousand printed pages.

It is in all respects a most valuable publication, since it presents in one collection a complete series of all the papers of any importance bearing upon the subject to which it refers—a subject of vast interest to this country. The large body of documentary matter attached to the report is for the most part chronologically arranged next after the proceedings of the convention which gave rise to the report itself—a body of information covering nearly one hundred and fifty pages. In this part of the compilation the information communicated by Dr. Hall, our colonization agent, may be found in the form of answers to a series of questions put to him in the convention.—Next in order after the records of the convention come the proceedings of the Virginia Legislature, of the 31st December, 1800—the first definite movement towards the object of an external colonization of emancipated blacks, a favourite project, it is well known, of Mr. Jefferson. These and some subsequent proceedings of like nature come down to the year 1805, and to page 166 of the document. Next come the formation and the memorial of the society, in 1816, and letters in its favour by Mr. Jefferson, Robert Goodloe Harper, and others, with various subsequent proceedings of congress and the society tending to the abolition of the slave trade and the declaring it piracy down to 1820, and to page 259 of the document. Then follows the act of May 8, in that year, incorporating the Society.

The rest of the document contains interesting papers, diplomatic and others, relating to this subject, and among them a series of letters and papers illustrating the history of the Maryland colony at Cape Palmas. The whole work is, as we have said, most valuable; and we are sure that all who feel an interest in the subject of African colonization—a large and increasing multitude of the best men in the country—will be thankful to the intelligent author for the copious and well arranged mass of information which he has here put together, as well as for the just and liberal views embodied in the report. The National Intelligencer speaking of this document, says:

"Mr. Kennedy's discriminating survey of the whole matter has led him to bring together whatever of individual action and information, or of state and federal legislation, or of our diplomatic intercourse with other nations, could offer to form a sound and clear body of facts, such as was necessary completely to elucidate this important matter, and put in a condition to be wisely canvassed and acted on: a labour of great extent and difficulty, the accomplishment of which is only one of the many services which his diligence and skill, not less useful than brilliant, have often conferred upon our public councils."

The Report, which is clear, succinct and brief, yet comprehensive and satisfactory, traces the progress of the colonization enterprise in the United

States, and looking to the causes which led to the establishment of our colonies on the Western Coast of Africa, and to their noble objects, comes to the conclusion "that the colonies of Liberia and Maryland, now existing, and those which may hereafter be established on the African Coast, may justly invoke the regard of the government, and ask from it some measure of protection and support." The amount of protection and support which it would be proper to extend to them might be comprised in the grant of aid towards the enlargement of their territory, occasional visitation and protection by our naval armaments, and a guaranty to be secured to them by the influence of our government, of the right of neutrality in the wars which may arise between European or American nations. The following extract from the report is full of interest:

"The time has arrived, in the opinion of the committee, when the subject of African colonization has become sufficiently important to attract the attention of the people, in its connexion with the question of the political relations which these colonies are to hold with our government. Founded partly by the private enterprise of American citizens, and partly by the aid of the federal and state authorities, recognized as political communities by our laws, and even owing their regulation, in some degree, to the legislation of a state of this Union, (as in the case of Maryland,) they have attained a position in which, obviously, they must very soon become objects of consideration to the world, both for the commerce which may be under their control, and for the agency they are likely to exercise in the final disenthralment of the continent to which they belong. It may speedily become apparent to the observation of Christendom, that the slave trade may more certainly, effectually, and cheaply be destroyed by the colonial power on shore, than by all the squadrons of Europe and America afloat. The growth of such a conviction will inevitably draw an anxious and friendly eye towards the American colonies from every power which sincerely pursues the charitable work of relieving Africa from her horrible traffic, and mankind from the reproach of permitting it. The influence of such a sentiment, we may conceive, will greatly advance the interests and magnify the value of the colonies. It would appear to be our duty, before an occasion of conflicting interest may arise, to take such steps towards the recognition of our appropriate relations to these communities as may hereafter secure to them the protection of this Government, and to our citizens the advantages of commercial intercourse with them."

It is deeply to be regretted that the adjournment of congress took place before any action was had on the resolutions accompanying this very excellent report. One of these resolutions directed the appointment of an agent to reside in the colonies, with power to form treaties or connections with the native tribes on the coast of Africa, for the advancement of American trade, and for the suppression of the traffic in slaves.

Our country has it to say that, amid all the philanthropic talk and ostentatious professions of civilized nations on the subject of the slave trade, she took the first step in practical action towards its suppression. We could wish that a wise discernment as to the true end in view and a prompt use of the means best adapted to attain it, might always characterise our government in its course of dealing both at home and abroad; and hence we sincerely hope that the line of action designated in the resolution we have referred to, may be adopted with as little delay as practicable, and that an agent may be sent to the western coast of Africa for the purposes specified. This is after all the only effectual course to be pursued—unless indeed there are other purposes to be subserved in connection with the slave trade, different from that of its suppression. While England wants *apprentices* for

her colonies in the West Indies, she may prefer to allow slaves to be embarked on the African coast, in order that her cruisers may seize them at sea. But as we have no other motive in this business than an honest one for stopping an abominable traffic, it becomes the Republic to go directly to the source of the evil and to stop it there.

We may mention here, and we do it with pleasure, that the secretary of the navy has given directions to Com. Perry, in command of the African squadron, to survey thoroughly the harbour of Fishtown, included in the purchase recently made by the Maryland Colonial Government from the native chiefs in the neighbourhood of Cape Palmas. This harbour is the best on the coast, and it will prove a valuable acquisition not only to the colony, but also to our ships of war on that station and to trading vessels. The location has been held until recently, by an English trader under a grant from the natives; but the death of the occupant left it unclaimed, and it was purchased by Gov. Russwurm. It is situated not far from Garroway, the place which the French have lately occupied. The survey of the Fishtown harbour by our squadron will make it known to traders and render it easily accessible.

## SAILING OF THE LATROBE.

As we predicted in our last, the number of emigrants amounted to 75, mostly manumitted on the express condition of going to Liberia. Some thirty or so were set free by the will of a Mr. Hodges of Calvert County. About the same number were sent by the Rev. Mr. Goodwin of Charles County. These people have long been at liberty to go to the colony, but were deterred by the apprehension of evil from some quarter. During the past summer, however, one of their old fellow-servants, who was manumitted some eight years since, much to their astonishment returned from Cape Palmas, and when they had felt him all over, heard him talk of his new country and friends, they became satisfied that it was their old friend "Ambrose," and that he had not been sold to Georgia. All hands concluded at once to rise up and get them out of this land. Several free families also embarked, and one man from out of the state came forward and paid his own passage.

As the sailing of the barque received merited notices from our daily prints, we have little more to say than that the expedition was well gotten up, well gotten off, and we trust and believe that it will be well with all that they have gone.

We have to render our thanks to the Rev. gentlemen who so kindly and ably officiated on the occasion of the departure of these people for their new home, and we cannot but believe the wholesome counsel so feelingly impressed upon them will be long remembered.

The great concourse of people who thronged the wharves on the departure of the Latrobe, and who cheered her as she moved from the wharf, shews how deeply the citizens of Baltimore are interested in the cause of colonization.

*Printed by John D. Toy, corner of St. Paul and Market streets, Baltimore.*